

TOP SECRET

16 February 1959

Copy No. C 63

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



DOCUMENT NO. 27
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHARGED
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010
AUTH: 4-4-80
DATE: 4-4-80 REVIEWER:

State Dept. review completed

TOP SECRET

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

16 February 1959

DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

25X1

25X1
[redacted] Communist China: Chu Teh appears to be the likely successor to Mao Tse-tung as chairman of the Chinese People's Republic. [redacted]

ok [redacted] The naming of Chu--a highly respected but rather unimportant party elder--would maintain the present balance among the top leadership, which might be upset if either Liu Shao-chi or Chou En-lai, Mao's principal lieutenants, were selected. [redacted]

II. ASIA-AFRICA

25X1

ok [redacted] Laos: Dissension between conservative leaders of Premier Phoui's political party and young reformists in his cabinet is threatening the stability of the Phoui government. [redacted]

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

25X1

**Peiping Preparing for Transfer of Mao's Government Role
To Chu Teh**

25X1

25X1

The 72-year-old Chu, the present vice chairman and a highly respected but rather unimportant party figure, is a logical choice to succeed Mao Tse-tung in the largely ceremonial government post.)

(The naming of Chu to the chairmanship would maintain the balance within the Chinese top leadership which might be upset if either Liu Shao-chi or Chou En-lai, Mao's principal lieutenants, were selected. Chu has been described as a sort of "lubricating oil" among the leadership--a man who would be willing to remain a figurehead and permit the real political power to lie elsewhere.)

(Chu has been closely associated with Mao since the early days of the party and probably ranks next to him in popularity. Regarded as the "grand old man" of the Chinese Communist Army, Chu commanded Peiping's forces from 1928 to 1945, and nominally until 1954. He now is an elder statesman of the regime, occupying a number of senior party and government posts in which he appears primarily as a spokesman for Mao.)

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Laotian Premier Threatened by Political Bickering

{Dissension between conservative leaders of Premier Phoui's political party and young reformists in his cabinet is threatening government stability in Laos. The young reformers and army leaders are reported opposing the premier's efforts to fulfill his pledges to give executive and diplomatic posts to party members who voted him full powers on 14 January. Phoui fears an ultimatum from his party supporters either to fulfill his pledges or to resign from the party.}

{The reformists and their army supporters are withholding funds with which to satisfy the party leaders' demands and are urging Phoui to discard his conservative support. Although the reformers represent leadership and strength in the Vientiane area and within the army, the party represents the traditional local leadership, and the reformers have little grass-roots support.

25X1

25X1

25X1

THE PRESIDENT**The Vice President****Executive Offices of the White House**

Special Assistant for National Security Affairs
Scientific Adviser to the President
Director of the Budget
Office of Defense and Civilian Mobilization
Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination
Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities
Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy
Executive Secretary, National Security Council

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of State

The Secretary of State
The Under Secretary of State
The Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs
The Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs
The Deputy Under Secretary for Administration
The Counselor
Director, International Cooperation Administration
The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense
The Deputy Secretary of Defense
Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs
The Secretary of the Army
The Secretary of the Navy
The Secretary of the Air Force
The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff
Commandant, United States Marine Corps
The Director, The Joint Staff
Chief of Staff, United States Army
Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy
Chief of Staff, United States Air Force
Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations
Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff
Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of the Army
Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy
Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force
Supreme Allied Commander, Europe
Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Department of the Interior

The Secretary of the Interior

The Department of Commerce

The Secretary of Commerce

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

National Security Agency

The Director

National Indications Center

The Director

United States Information Agency

The Director

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET